Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 02474 110824Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 XMB-04 $/022\,\mathrm{W}$

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R 110757Z JUN 75 FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT TO USDOC WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3158

UNCLAS KUWAIT 2474 DEPT PASS EXIMBANK (MORAN) FOR INFO

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS:BEXP, KU SUBJ: EQUIPMENT LEASING

- 1. PERIODICALLY OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS LOCAL BUSINESSMEN HAVE COMPLAINED OF TIGHTNESS IN HEAVY EQUIPMENT MARKET HERE. SOME OBSERVERS NOW BELIEVE THAT DEMAND FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT EXCEEDS AVAILABLE FUNDS TO BUY SUCH EQUIPMENT. THEREFORE, ATTENTION IS BEING DRAWN TOWARDS EQUIPMENT LEASING POSSIBILITIES.
- 2. EMBOFF HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY OFFICIAL OF INDUSTRIAL BANK OF KUWAIT (IBK) WHO INTENDS TO LOOK INTO PROSPECTS OF ESTABLISHING A SUBSTANTIAL HEAVY EQUIPMENT LEASING COMPANY HERE. HE BELIEVES THAT SUCH A COMPANY WOULD FIND READY MARKET AND THAT IT COULD LEAD TO SIGNIFICANT SALES OF US HEAVY EQUIPMENT, PARTICULARY SONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, IN KUWAIT AND PERHAPS IN GULF REGION GENERALLY, ESPECIALLY IF EXIM CREDITS ARE AVAILABLE.
- 3. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: PROJECT IS STILL ONLY IN IDEA STAGE, BUT WE AGREE WITH IBK OFFICIAL'S ANALYSIS. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO ASSIST HIM AS HE PURSUES STUDY, AND BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WE COULD PROVIDE HIM WITH NAMES OF IMPORTANT US FIRMS IN HEAVY EQUIPEMTN LEASING FIELDS. WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL IF COMMERCE COULD PROVIDE OTHER GENERAL INFO ON EQUIPMENT LEASING THAT COULD BE GIVEN TO IBK OFFICIAL. COMMERCE REQUESTED PROVIDE NAMES US FIRMS AND INDICATE WHAT MATERIALS IT CAN AIR POUCH FOR DELIVERY TO IBK OFFICIAL. UNCLASSIFIED

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TAGS: BEXP, KU To: COM

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